

ASEAN Movement in Radiology

Asian Radiology Education Program (AREP): A new step of radiology education in Asia

Silanath Terpenning, MD.

Janardhana Ponnatapura, M.D.

From Department of Radiology, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA.

Address correspondence to S.T. (email: natsawadee@yahoo.com)

Received 21 September 2022 ; accepted 5 October 2022
doi:10.46475/aseanjr.v23i3.186

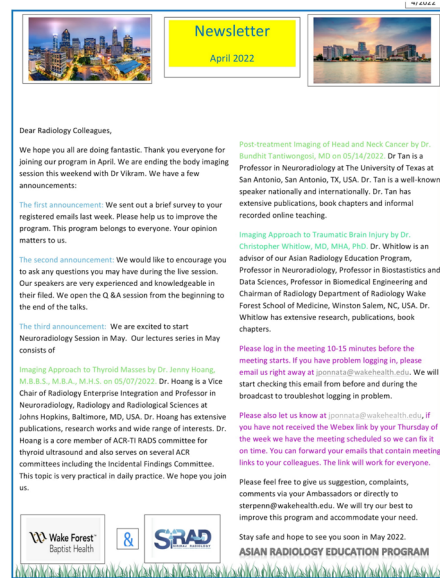
Keywords: Radiology education, Asia, Non-profit, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, AREP, Asian Radiology Education Program.

It is an honor for me to write this article about the ASEAN Movement in Radiology. Almost 20 years ago while I was a junior staff at Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand, I had two articles published in The ASEAN Journal of Radiology and I still keep the hard copies with me even now.

I am grateful to both Thailand and USA for providing me with an excellent training in radiology. Throughout my training and career in Thailand and USA, I have always been motivated to pay back to our radiology society.

My colleague, Dr. Janardhana Ponnatapura, an Assistant Professor in Cardiothoracic Imaging and Section Chief, Department of Radiology, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, one of the most remarkable and knowledgeable radiologists has provided his insight below.

“Coming from a medical family background has given me a great exposure in medicine and a profound sense of integrity and responsibility. During my medical school days in India, I frequently saw a lot of patients from neglected sectors of society and was close to the cradle of basic human feelings. After each case, I had to reassess myself both as a clinician striving towards perfection and as a person striving towards empathy for my patients.



“Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”, a Sanskrit phrase in one of the Hindu texts means “The World Is One Family”. One of the meaningful ways to give back to the community is to volunteer your time to support a cause you are passionate about and that which enriches your life, also gives you an opportunity to grow as a person, to better understand how you fit into the world around you. Having a unique opportunity to work in America where there is a strong healthcare system with numerous opportunities for research, and advance technology, I sense it is essential to contribute back to the radiology community”.

Most Asian countries have made great advancements in radiology education. Asia hosts several important international meetings annually. We have the newest scanners and well-trained personnel; however, some of our neighbor countries are still struggling to catch up. To assist in the matter, the “Asian Radiology Education Program” was created in October 2021 with collaboration from our volunteer radiology colleagues in Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, Myanmar, Mongolia, Thailand and Vietnam. Our program is a non-profit program, therefore, free of charge.

The purposes of this program are to share experiences, expertise and knowledge from the West to radiology colleagues in Asia and to collaborate research projects, radiology education and exchange visitor programs in the near future.

We broadcast live radiology education webinars three weekends each month with multiple subspecialty lecture series: Cardiothoracic Imaging, Body Imaging, Neuroradiology, MSK Radiology and Hot Topics in Radiology (27 lectures this year in total). This year's program runs from January to September 2022.

Our moderators are academic radiologists from member countries and our guest speakers are from leading academic institutes in the US such as the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (Houston, TX), the University of Maryland (Baltimore, MD), Emory University School of Medicine (Atlanta, GA), the University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM), The Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD), Medical College of Wisconsin (Milwaukee, WI), the University of Texas at San Antonio (San Antonio, TX), the University of Washington (Seattle, WA), NYU Langone Health (New York, NY), the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (Miami, FL) and Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, Wake Forest University School of Medicine (Winston-Salem, NC).

Going forward, we desire to involve more Asian countries to participate in this educational program and develop a strong intent to create an annual outreach program from our institute, where radiology residents from the Wake Forest School of Medicine can rotate in these countries and contribute to the increase of radiology care and access across the globe, and also learn about international healthcare.

Thank you for the opportunity to share a few thoughts about our program. We deliver directly from our hearts to your hearts!

Respectfully,

Janardhana Ponnatapura, M.D.
Assistant Professor,
Section Chief and Fellowship Director,
Cardiothoracic Imaging,
Co-Director Asian Radiology Education Program

Silanath Terpenning, M.D.
Associate Professor,
Cardiothoracic Imaging,
Director Asian Radiology Education Program